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VOLUME 2. . . . JULY, 1898. . . . NUMBER 5.

The *..Ontario Philatelist..*

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Devoted to the Interests of Stamp Collecting.

R. G. WIDDICOMBE, PUBLISHER,

29 Elizabeth St., St. Catharines, Ont., Canada.

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An illustrated quarterly magazine published in the interests of coin collectors. Specimen copy 10c., subscription 25 cents per year. If you send 25c. for a year's subscription and enclose 5c. extra to cover postage, we will send you free of charge 10 different coins from 10 different countries, Japan, Dominican Republic, British East Africa etc. Every subscriber is allowed one insertion of a 30-word exchange notice provided the same is sent with the subscription.

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The Ontario Philatelist.

A MONTHLY FOR COLLECTORS.

Vol. II.

JULY, 1898.

No. 5.

Historical and Postal Matters of the Ionian Islands.

BY F. P.

A group of small islands, viz: Corfu, Ithaka, Sevkada, Kephallonia, Kerigo, and Zante bear combined the name "Ionian Islands," which are situated in the Mediterranean Sea, in Europe. Long before Christ, old time history mentioned already the island of Ithaka (Siek da Timotheus, die Iliche des Cranikus) and also Kephallonia, and both islands play a great part in old time Greek mythology as a part of what is now called the Kingdom of Greece at that time ruled by the heroic Spartana, and also during the old time Greek-Persian wars, as the Persian Kings Xerxes and Ataxerxes with their armies crossed the Hellespont river and at least conquered old Greece (by the Thermophyle Mountain treachery).

In later years the Ionian Islands for centuries belonged to the powerful and much feared Republic of Venice (Doge von Venedig). In 1797 the Ionian Islands by the Treaty of Campo Formio became the property of France. As in 1814, Napoleon I. Emperor of France was finally defeated, and sent in exile to St. Helena, the united powers of Prussia, Russia, and England at the Peace of Paris, concluded

all the above mentioned islands should combine, and declared them a Republic under "British protection" November 15, 1815.

The Republic of the Ionian Islands existed up to November 14, 1863. Meantime the leading European powers had created what is now known as the Kingdom of Greece, and in 1864 the Republic of the Ionian Islands became royal Greek territory, in accordance with the Peace of London. On May 1, 1864, post-offices were opened by the Republic of the Ionian Islands at various places, and the fee for mail matter had to be paid in cash. (English money circulated in the Ionian Republic). On July 27, 1857, the tariff for postal fees was changed, and the Parliament of the Islands concluded to issue postage stamps. But money was scarce and the Republic was poor, and so it took two years before the stamps were ready, and on May 15, 1859, a set of three denominations appeared. The values were 1 obolos (equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ c.) red yellow, 2 oboloi ($\frac{1}{2}$ c.) dark blue, and 4 oboloi (1 c.) wine red.

The value 2 oboloi has the watermark "2" in small points, and the value 4 oboloi has the watermark "4" in small points, but the value 1 obolos is without watermark. What is the reason for this? Philatelic authorities in Europe vary about it, but the

probable explanation is as follows:—The printing office in London, England, that manufactured the stamps of the Ionian Republic, certainly had the intention to watermark all three denominations, but during the printing the Republican postal authorities must have given the order not to watermark the 1 obolos value. The stamps bear in the centre the portrait of Queen Victoria of England as Protectress of the Ionian Islands. Surrounding is the Greek inscription, IONIKON KRATOS (Ionian Post). The quantities printed of these postage stamps are: 180,000 of the 1 obolos value, 75,000 of the 2 obolos value, and 45,000 of the 4 obolos value.

During the year 1859 the post-offices of the Republic of the Ionian Islands handled 112,000 pieces of mail matter, and in 1860 more than 134,000 pieces.

[CONTINUED IN NEXT NUMBER]

Hamilton Notes.

The Star Stamp Company of this city has been of late, inactive, and it is announced that the firm will shortly go into liquidation. The above firm was organized in 1890 and has done a steady business ever since. I regret very much that this Company has discontinued, as I was President in its early days, but resigned soon after and started dealing in the "wee bits" for myself.

There is now a great demand for the Canada Jubilee used, and the 6 cent unused, which cannot be had around the city at any price, it being very scarce. The new issue 1, 2, and 3 cent

used are also in good demand. If one observes these stamps they will notice different shades and sizes of engraving, and some stamps will be found larger than others. If this issue changes, the above mentioned will become scarce and of good value to one who collects varieties.

It is rumored that a paper in the interest of philately will appear from this city in the near future. Many attempts have been made, but so far all have proved unsuccessful.

"Success!"

The talk for the last few weeks among the collectors here has been "D. P. A. Convention" and nothing else. Everything is in readiness and a hot time is looked for. Details of the convention appear in this issue.

There are five of Hamilton's active collectors running for office in the D. P. A. Any or all of them would make good officers for the ensuing year, if elected.

Received.

We have received No. 2 of the Postal Card Reporter, published occasionally by A. Lohmeyer, 922 N. Gilmor St., Baltimore, Md. A request will bring you a copy.

Mr. E. A. Marris, Hamilton, Ontario, has sent us a copy of his price list. It's free for the asking.

Information has just been received that the color of the \$1 Omaha has been changed to black.—Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News.

What about your subscription?

The Dominion Philatelic Association.

THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION.

The third annual convention of the Dominion Philatelic Association was held in Hamilton on July 1st and 2nd. The following members were present:— L. S. Graham, W. A. Beatty, G. Bradley, R. G. Widdicombe, W. A. Lydiatt, W. McMahon, G. E. Davenport, C. Morden, J. H. Lowe, C. Bailey, W. H. Thurston, R. S. Knox, F. I. Weaver, G. W. Starnaman, W. A. Starnaman, F. M. Robinson, N. Matches, W. B. Grant, H. Terryberry, R. S. Mason, J. H. Slater, A. H. Ward, C. S. Apple-gath, Dr. E. G. Kittson and E. A. Marris.

First Day.

MORNING SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 11 a. m. In the absence of both the President and Vice-President, it was moved by W. A. Lydiatt, seconded by E. A. Marris, that Charles Bailey take the chair. Carried.

Mr. Bailey made a short speech thanking the members present for the honor conferred upon him and said he hoped he would fill the position satisfactorily. (He did, too).

On behalf of the Hamilton Stamp Club, Mr. F. N. Robinson gave an address of welcome to the visiting members. The chairman replied to this.

In the absence of the Secretary at this session, N. Matches was appointed Secretary pro tem.

The President sent an address

to be read at the convention. It was somewhat lengthy and went carefully into the matter of Philatelic Societies in Canada, especially of the D. P. A.

It was moved by F. M. Robinson, seconded by E. A. Marris, that a vote of thanks be sent to the President for the kind words conveyed in his address.

A resolution was read to reinstate I. E. Patterson of Detroit, formerly of Guelph, Ontario. There was much discussion regarding this matter.

It was moved by R. G. Widdicombe, seconded by L. S. Graham, that Mr. Patterson be reinstated provided he pay up all back dues. Carried.

Moved by L. S. Graham, seconded by C. Bailey, that the convention adjourn until 2 p. m. Carried.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The members met at the rooms at 2 p. m. and proceeded to the photograph gallery where a picture was taken, after which all journeyed back to the convention hall.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bailey.

Moved by N. Matches, seconded by W. B. Grant, that a button that R. S. Mason had prepared be made the regular emblem of the Society. A vote was taken and the motion was lost.

Moved by Dr. Kittson, seconded by A. H. Ward, that a

committee consisting of Messrs. Marris, Grant and Applegath be appointed to receive designs for an official emblem of the Society. Carried.

W. A. Starnaman was then called upon to read the revised constitution. After various additions and amendments it was moved by A. H. Ward, seconded by E. A. Marris, that the constitution be adopted. Carried.

Moved by C. Bailey, seconded by L. S. Graham, that a vote of thanks be tendered the constitution committee for the efficient manner in which they performed their work. Carried.

Moved by W. A. Lydiatt, seconded by W. B. Grant, that a person must be a member of the Society at least six months before being nominated for any office of the Society. Carried.

Moved by E. A. Marris, seconded by C. S. Applegath, that the Secretary publish a financial statement of the Society each month. Carried.

The matter of John R. Hooper was brought up. It was moved by W. A. Starnaman, seconded by W. A. Lydiatt, that all the members be requested to sign a petition to endeavor to secure his release. Carried.

The Credential Committee now adjourned to count the ballots. The result was announced as follows:—

VICE-PRESIDENT:—	
C. S. Applegath,	60
A. H. Adams,	18
SECRETARY-TREASURER,—	
G. W. Starnaman,	51
R. G. Widdicombe,	21
EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT:—	
F. B. Reynolds,	24
E. L. Shove,	53
LIBRARIAN:—	
F. I. Weaver,	55
W. B. Grant,	20
TRUSTEES:—	
R. S. Mason,	56
G. W. Hicks,	55
E. A. Marris,	50

J. H. Slater,	44
W. A. Beatty,	23
OFFICIAL ORGAN:—	
Philatelic Advocate,	55
Ontario Philatelist,	17
Stamp Reporter	3
CONVENTION SEAT, 1899:—	
Toronto,	65
Halifax,	11

The date of convention will be decided later.

The following were elected by acclamation:—

PRESIDENT—A. M. Muirhead.
 VICE-PRESIDENT (C. S.)—C. Bailey.
 AUCTION MANAGER—N. Matches.
 ATTORNEY—J. A. Wainwright.
 COUNTERFEIT DET.—F. J. Garraty

Convention adjourned at 6 p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

Meeting called to order at 8 p. m.

The evening was taken up with the Auction Sale, during which refreshments were served. Prices realized were good in most cases, though some lots went at low figures.

Convention adjourned at 10.15 p. m.

Second Day.

MORNING SESSION.

Convention called to order at 9.30 a. m.

After a short time spent in looking over stamps business was proceeded with.

It was decided that the office of Advertising and Subscription Agent was needed by the Society. The chairman called for nominations and the following were received:—W. A. Lydiatt and R. G. Widdicombe. A ballot vote was taken which resulted as follows:—

W. A. Lydiatt,	4
R. G. Widdicombe	9

The matter of S. P. Hughes' charges against W. R. Adams, which has been in the hands of the Trustees for some time was brought before the convention,

and was the cause of much discussion.

It was moved by L. S. Graham, seconded by C. Bailey, that the matter be thrown out as one that does not interest the Society. Others thought different and the motion was lost.

The Secretary said Mr. Adams' dues were not paid up.

Moved by C. Bailey, seconded by R. G. Widdicombe, that as Mr. Adams' dues are unpaid nothing could be done in the matter and that it be dropped. Carried.

Moved by W. A. Lydiatt, seconded by W. A. Starnaman, that all the members that are not paid up be notified by the Secretary, and if their dues are not paid inside of a month they be suspended, and that the present paid up members be re-numbered. Carried.

Moved by C. Bailey, seconded by R. G. Widdicombe, that a grant of \$5.00 from the Society be given to the Hamilton Stamp Club toward the expenses of entertaining the visitors.

It was moved in amendment to the above that the matter be laid over till the afternoon session. Carried.

A few of the members expressed dissatisfaction with some of the President's recent actions, and it was moved by Dr. Kittson, seconded by W. A. Lydiatt, that the polls be opened for the election of a new President. The chairman endeavored to take a vote on this question but found it impossible. Some did vote, but others thought that it was an unfair proceeding and wouldn't vote.

Moved by W. A. Lydiatt, seconded by W. H. Thurston,

that this matter be laid over till the afternoon session. Carried.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention called to order by the chairman at 2 p. m.

The matter of electing a new President was brought up, but was quickly settled.

Moved by L. S. Graham, seconded by W. A. Starnaman, that A. M. Muirhead be retained as President. Carried.

The reports of the officers was next called for.

The Secretary reported a good year for the Society. He reported during the year 91 new members, 2 deaths and two resignations. A balance of over \$10.00 is in the treasury.

Moved by C. Bailey, seconded by E. A. Marris, that a vote of thanks be tendered the Secretary for his services. Carried.

The Auction Manager's report showed that three sales had been held and a balance of 92 cents was on hand, which amount was handed to the Secretary.

The Counterfeit Detector stated that only seven stamps had been sent him for examination.

A vote of thanks was passed to all the officers.

The matter of voting money to the Hamilton Stamp Club was brought forward again.

Moved by W. A. Starnaman, seconded by R. G. Widdicombe, that \$5.00 be given by the Society toward the expenses of the Club. Carried.

On behalf of the Hamilton Stamp Club, Mr. W. B. Grant thanked the members of the D. P. A. for their aid.

A paper on "Advertising" was read by Mr. G. W. Starnaman, and contained many good points for advertisers.

The convention adjourned at 3.30 p. m. to allow the members to take in the sights of the city. Excursions to the Hamilton beach and to the mountain were much enjoyed.

EVENING SESSION.

Meeting called to order at 8 p. m.

The evening was spent in social intercourse with piano, organ, and violin selections by several of the members.

Convention adjourned at 10 p. m.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

Anyone wishing a photograph of the group taken at the convention can secure same by sending 50 cents to C. S. Applegath, 6 Market Square, Hamilton, Ontario.

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. . . THE . . .

Ontario Philatelist.

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Address all communications to

R. G. WIDDICOMBE, Editor and Publisher,
St. Catharines, Ont., CANADA.

OUR SAY.

This number is a few days late. We purposely delayed it in order to get a full report of the convention of the Dominion Philatelic Association that has just ended, and which will be found on another page.

* * *

We have received the long-looked-for "Canadian Philatelic Annual," which is published jointly with the May number of the Boy's Own Philatelist. Altogether it makes a paper worth reading.

* * *

THE ONTARIO PHILATELIST is fast gaining favor among collectors and dealers as the best paper of its kind in Canada. One firm writes the following: "Should very much like to see your paper. Have heard a great deal of it, but have not seen it as yet." Everyone wants to see

it. On another page will be found a few things that have been said about us. Of course there are a few people who never can say anything decent, and who try to run us down—but such we will let alone at present. Needless to say, they don't succeed.

* * *

The following item appeared in our editorials last month:—

The Ontario correspondent of the Philatelic Bulletin says there will be six candidates for Official Organ of the D. P. A., and that two out of the six will have a "right race." We should like this party to give us a few names, for we are anxious to know how he sizes up the O. P.

In reply to the above we have received the following from Mr. G. W. Hicks, who is the correspondent referred to: "In your paper you say you would like to know how I 'size up' the O. P. Space forbids me giving a lengthy public opinion of your paper in the Philatelic Bulletin as it would take nearly a column to say all I would like about it, and I can tell you I would only have good to say about it. Suffice it to say here that your paper is a dandy." This is what one man thinks about it, and we think it is worthy of your support.

* * *

Several persons have written us asking for our "lowest adv. rates." To one and all we would say that they can be found at the top of this page. We will announce in plenty of time when a "cut" is to be made. We think it only right to treat all alike.

* * *

The war that is at present going on between the United States and Spain seems to have the

effect of turning the thoughts of some collectors from their stamps. While as yet, Canadian dealers have not been visibly affected by it, should it continue they will no doubt soon begin to notice a falling off of their trade, as considerable of it comes from "over the border."

* * *

Canadian stamps are "just the thing" at present. As announced in our last number, another "new" issue is surely coming, and before this number reaches its readers some values may have made their appearance. The demand for used Jubilee and current issue stamps is very great—in fact the demand is greater than the present supply. Whether this will continue or not is only a matter of conjecture.

reside in the future. We believe that he will continue to deal in stamps as before.

* * *

Prices for back numbers of this magazine will be found among the advertisements. Very few are kept back, so those wanting them had better send at once.

* * *

It is rumored that a new philatelic paper will shortly appear from Hamilton. As yet, no attempt at publishing in this city has been successful, but hope that this one will be an exception to the rule.

* * *

We are pleased to have with us again our Hamilton correspondent, Mr. E. A. Marris.

Have YOU Tried an Adv. in the O. P?

If not, try it next month. It has paid others; why not YOU?

CONTRACT BLANKS SENT ON APPLICATION.

Notwithstanding all that has been said against our Jubilees they started our "new issues," and new issues seem to make things interesting, and also start new collectors, and that means more business for the dealers. Of course the thing can be overdone but we trust Canada will not be the one to do this. There is certainly a good reason for changing the present stamps, so surely no one will grumble.

* * *

Mr. R. A. Oswald of this city, formerly business manager of the Stamp Reporter, is in Chicago at present, on his way to Sacramento, California, where he will

He has been laid up in the hospital for some time past, but has sufficiently recovered to be able to resume his duties.

* * *

What about your subscription? Have you sent it in?

●●

Wilson's Patriotic Private Post Cards.

We are in receipt of advance proofs of three very unique Patriotic Private Cards in colors, issued by the well known firm of J. C. Wilson & Co., Paper Makers, Montreal. We anticipate they will be very popular with the trade. The first card

represents Britannia with "trident" and Columbia with olive branch, sitting with the lion and eagle at their respective feet. The Union Jack and Stars and Stripes crossed the poles of which are joined by a gordian knot, and below the flags two hands clasped, representing "Union is strength." A Globe, the World, between the flags with the mottoes, "One aim, one goal, Anglo-Saxon, Gloria Mundi." The second card represents the mailed figure of Britannia with "trident" sitting with the crouched lion at her feet. In the distance a battleship, England's first line of defence, and the old motto "Britannia, Britannia, rules the waves, Britons, never, never, never, shall be slaves." The third card represents the Union Jack, with the words in the Union crosses, "The flag that braved a thousand years, the battle and the breeze." These cards will be sold to the trade at \$2.50 per thousand. Stamp collectors and private individuals will no doubt use them extensively for correspondence in these war times. They can be had retail from all Stationers and Booksellers in Canada and the United States.—Richmond Guardian.

Over the Border.

Nutmeg Gratings.

In looking over different philatelic journals, I am pleased to note the many good writers who live in Canada. Those who occur to me now are R. S. Baker, W. J. Porter, E. A. Marris, "Philos" of the Perforator, G. W. Hicks, T. H. Caudwell,

"D. O. Minion," W. A. Beatty, F. J. Garraty, and (don't blush) R. G. Widdicombe.

Funny things happen in collecting sometimes, and some times they are not funny. It certainly is not funny to the party I know of who collected a hundred $\frac{1}{2}$ cent Jubilees for which he paid 65 cents each, to read that they can be bought "two for a quarter." In a letter to the Perforator last September, my friend Maud Charlotte Bingham, advised us to "wait," and those who took her advice saved something. She prophesied a wonderful drop and it has come, and the end is not yet.

It is strange to what extremes some people will resort to save a cent, and it is also disgusting to think a person well-to-do will indulge in it. I know of a case where a man, to save one cent, wrote his letters and wrapped them in a newspaper. The postmaster where he lived found it out and gave him warning. Then he travelled to the next town when he had letters to send, as he thought more of his money than his time. Being detected there and warned, he desisted, but was lucky in not being prosecuted, as he ought to have been.

The above leads me to tell of another effort to cheat the government nearly fifty years ago. It was told me by a female who in her younger days had a chum who had been her room-mate at school. They were separated and wished to write often, but the tariff for sending a letter in those days was ten cents, and that was too much for their limited means. It cost five cents to send a newspaper then. They did

not wrap letters in a newspaper, but resorted to a novel scheme which was in due time found out, owing to careless wrapping. The outside covering came off on one occasion, and the eagle eye of the postmaster noticed the scheme at once. A number of the printed letters had lead pencil dots under them. Commencing with the first dot, and proceeding, he had the pleasure of reading quite a long epistle, which had been done at considerable trouble, to save five cents. He, however, carried out the process by adding, "Pretty girls should n't cheat the government" and signed his name in the same manner, then wrapping it up, and forwarded it to its destination. This stopped the practice there, and the laughable part was that the sender was not pretty, and had only one eye.

The decree of the Postmaster-General of the United States that volunteer soldiers may forward their letters free, and the recipient pay the postage due, reminds me that I have letters written in 1861 by a soldier, with the "due 3" on the envelope. Several of the envelopes have patriotic designs on them, the red, white and blue colors always being predominant.

—

From Virginia.

Waiter! Bring me another lime ade, put in extra ice, and turn on several more volts of cold storage. Some dealers may think it cool,—pleasure, (?) such weather as this, for a philatelist or collector (either) to be sticking his purchases in one of their ten dollar (worth-less) albums. It's neither a cool nor dry job,

but it's a fascinating one, the longer one sticks to it, the more they get stuck—on it.

My heart throbs with emotion to think of what sacrifice some friends (?) will make. Such was never known before. The 2 peso, 1898, current issue of Spain's colonies, is being offered to the public at large by some conscientious dealers, for the modest sum of five (5) little U. S. of American dollars. Now isn't that beautiful? We don't want the earth, but just the modest profit of 316% per cent. "Come all ye" spring lambs and purchase a set before the supply is exhausted and the price—falls.

Dealers here are wearing the same long faces,—business dull, prices low, sales in proportion. Brighter times are expected next month, when the Omaha issue will be on sale at this office. These stamps have been, and are still, condemned by the S.S.S.S. Send in your orders early and avoid the rush.

In new issues, Portugal is taking the lead, with New Zealand a very close second. If the size of stamps increase as rapidly as new issues, albums will have to be discarded and each stamp framed separately. It is well that some countries are too poor to possess more than one plot of ground. If they could only get some new territory what a lot of new issues we would have.

The Phillipine Islands number about four hundred in all. Each island will have its own Governor and Post Office. U. S. stamps will be used (?) with name of island surcharged across centre. Thirteen stamps for each island. Four hundred islands. Nine

dollars and four cents per set. Only orders for the complete four hundred sets will be taken at present. After the S.S.S.S. advertises them a little, they will be placed on sale at all Post Offices and Drug Stores.

Not very long ago I read an account of a brother Philatelist taking a sleigh ride. I have wondered if there was a possibility of any of it (the snow, not the sled) still being upon the ground. If there is, if but a shovel full, will he be kind enough to let me know, for we are having a hot time in the "OLD DOMINION."

Our Wisconsin contribution did not arrive this month, our correspondent being away from home at present.

CURRENT PUBLICATIONS.

A Monthly Review, Conducted by Fred. J. Garraty.

PAPERS RECEIVED.

American Philatelic News, May.
 American Journal of Philately, June.
 Boston Stamp Book, May.
 Boy's Own Philatelist, May.
 Canadian Philatelic Magazine, June.
 Columbian Philatelist, April.
 Montreal Philatelist, May.
 Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, June 2.
 New York Philatelist, May.
 Perforator, May.
 Stamp Reporter, May-June.
 Pennsylvania Philatelist, June.
 Philatelic Bulletin, May.
 Philatelic Advocate, June.
 Texan Philatelist, May.
 The Melita Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser, May.
 Philatelic Literature.
 Weekly Philatelic Era, May 28.

Some up-to-date notes and a report of the Philatelic Literature Society, make the Texan Philatelist very interesting this month.

A neat little monthly called the American Philatelic News comes from Newark, N. J.

The Stamp Reporter contains this month eight pages and cover. To catch up to Father Time, Editor B. was forced to issue a double number.

Number 2 of the Montreal Philatelist contains twelve pages and cover. Some notes and articles are served up in fine style. A little more ink on the type would improve its appearance immensely.

Mr. Georges Carrion's pleasant features peeps from the first page of the Perforator. The usual departments appear. We are glad to see that it has secured second class rates.

The American Journal of Philately is a paper for the advanced collector. It appears promptly on the first of the month.

Speaking of papers that appear on time, the "Penny" for June is about as prompt as any. It reached our sanctum on May 25th. It contains the pictures of Messrs. J. F. Beard, F. D. Sawyer, and the officers of the Empire State Philatelic Society. The officers of the E. S. P. S. have each a "write up" by the only C. W. K.

The Philatelic Bulletin this month is a corker. It has two letters from Canada, and several others from American philatelic centres. "Advice, by one who knows" is especially entertaining.

Number 3 of the "Brown Cover Series" of Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News is O. K. It contains sixteen pages and cover, and has its usual features. This is no doubt the best Weekly published in America.

A Few Opinions.

My friend Widdicombe can justly claim that THE ONTARIO PHILATELIST is the best philatelic magazine in Canada.—H. A. Chapman, in the Perforator.

The April number of THE ONTARIO PHILATELIST is certainly a credit to Mr. Widdicombe, and speaks well for the numbers to follow.—Miss Blanch Noble, in the Perforator.

I can only say that it is the neatest stamp journal in Canada—one that has outgrown knickerbockers—and may "its shadow never grow less."—A. H. Ward.

Must congratulate you on the success, and beauty in make-up and contents of your paper.—W. A. Lydiatt.

WHAT PUBLISHERS SAY.

O. P. came to hand to-day. I want to congratulate you on both its appearance and contents.—J. F. Dodge.

The O. P is the neatest stamp paper in Canada. Hope you will keep on improving.—Roy B. Bradley.

FROM THE PRESS.

THE ONTARIO PHILATELIST unquestionably leads all the Canadian magazines at present. * * * * * Typographically the O. P. is almost perfect.—Philatelic Bulletin.

Two New Issues.

The first Omaha stamps to reach us, were those sent by Mr. E. P. Lyons, Jr., of Richmond, Va., which arrived on June 20th. We wish to thank Mr. Lyons for his kindness in remembering us,

and assure him that we appreciate it. The set sent us consisted of the 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, and 10 cent values. They are pretty stamps, and will no doubt have a large sale, notwithstanding the fact that the ban of the S. S. S. has been placed upon them.

Some persons seemed to doubt that another "new" issue for Canada was coming. Well, it has come anyway. The 1c. and 3c. values arrived in St. Catharines on June 20th, and were shortly afterwards placed on sale. The maple leaves in the lower corners have been removed, and figures substituted. The other values will be placed on sale as the supply of the "old style" is exhausted.

Capital Jottings.

OTTAWA, JUNE 22.

How has Canada fallen from her high philatelic estate! I doubt if any of the worst Seebekized republics or any of the small states that manufacture stamps avowedly for the revenue they bring from the confiding philatelist, has ever accomplished four distinct issues inside of twelve months. The issue of new 1c. and 3c. stamps on the 17th of June brings the tally up to that. First we had the long continued issue with the Queen's head in profile; a much more effective stamp artistically, by the way, than the present issue; then on the 20th of June, 1897, we had the celebrated Jubilee issue, which was artistically effective; then we had incidentally an interregnum of the old issue; next we had the issue with the maple leaves in all four corners; and now we have an issue with the

maple leaf removed from the lower corners and replaced by numerals of value.

I have sheets of the new stamps before me as I write, and I think I am correct in saying that the whole die has been re-made. The Queen's head is similar to that on the early issue of 1898, but it seems to be from a different die. The stamp is the same size as the previous one but the oval containing the inscription has been enlarged to touch the outer frame. This gives a little more background to the portrait, but it still has a crowded effect. The maple leaves in the lower corners have been replaced by white rectangles containing colored numerals of value. The band containing the lettering, which was of solid color in the first design, has been lightened by the insertion of horizontal white lines in all spaces.

During a recent visit to British Columbia I inquired into the state of philately there, especially in Victoria, the capital. I found few collectors, and they are not up to Eastern standards, caring nothing about blocks or shades and little about condition or catalogue prices. I am certain that if you want British Columbia stamps you have a better chance of obtaining them in Great Britain or the United States than in British Columbia. I saw one old time collector there with numbers of valuable stamps ruined by being trimmed off inside the edges of the stamps. It contained the 1 shilling New Brunswick, 1 shilling orange and 8 pence vermilion Newfoundland, and almost all the early Swiss

stamps, including the two Zurich cantonals, all mutilated in that way.

I saw a 2 cent Omaha stamp used yesterday. It has a muddy appearance. B. N. A.

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—PUBLISHER.—

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W. A. BEATTY, St. Catharines, Ontario.

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W. A. BEATTY, St. Catharines, Ontario.

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